



State of Utah

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TODD E. KISER
Commissioner

Insurance Department

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ALERT to Consumers Calling Healthcare.gov

The Utah Insurance Department is aware of an organization using a phone number very similar to the federal government's healthcare.gov number of 1-**800**-318-2596. The number is exactly the same, except for the prefix, 1-**888**. Those calling healthcare.gov who accidentally call the 1-888 number are told that, "for calling today they get a special offer." This is not an offer from the federal government.

Those answering the phone at the 1-888 number offer a \$100 or \$300 rebate voucher to shop at a major discount store. All the caller needs to do is give them their name, address and credit card information to pay for the \$1.95 activation fee. One might ask, "Why would someone give me \$100 or \$300 dollars in return for \$1.95?"

"This appears to be one of those 'too good to be true' offers that could cost you far more than you are being offered," said Insurance Commissioner Todd E. Kiser. "We strongly recommend that you **NOT** provide them with your personal information. Just hang-up."

The Insurance Department has referred this issue to the Utah Department of Commerce's Consumer Protection Division to investigate. Insurance departments throughout the United States are also being alerted.

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The Utah Insurance Department is a State agency. Its mandate is to regulate insurance marketed and sold in Utah. Currently more than 95,000 agents, agencies, and insurers are licensed; domestic insurers are audited to verify financial stability and compliance with insurance laws; administrative action is taken against licensees found to be in violation of insurance laws; calls from consumers with questions or complaints are taken; and licensees and consumers are educated regarding insurance. For more information visit <http://www.insurance.utah.gov/> or call toll free in-state @ 1-800-439-3805 or locally @ 801-538-3077.